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Jobs Are Top Economic Worry, Deficit Concerns Rise

More Blame Wars than Domestic Spending or Tax Cuts for Nation's Debt

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Jobs Are Top Economic Worry, Deficit Concerns Rise More Blame Wars than Domestic Spending or Tax Cuts for Nation's Debt

Far more Americans say that the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has contributed a great deal to the nation's debt than say that about increased domestic spending or the tax cuts enacted over the past decade.

Six-in-ten (60%) say the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has contributed a great deal to the size of the debt. About four-in-ten (42%) say the same about the condition of the national economy.

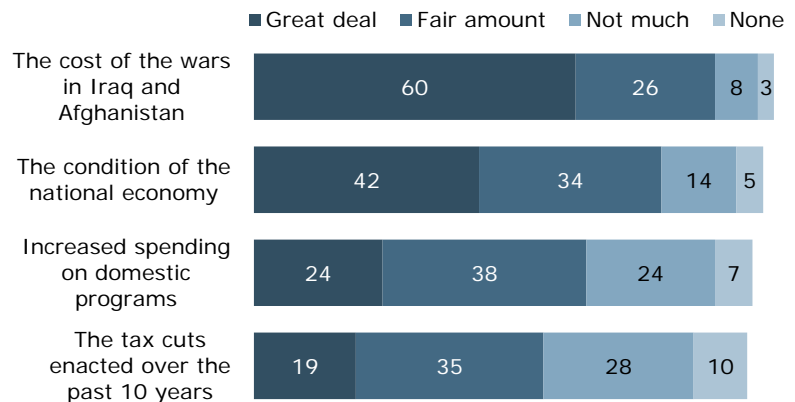
By comparison, just 24% say increased spending on domestic programs has contributed greatly to the nation's debt and even fewer (19%) cite the tax cuts enacted over the past decade. While half or more say spending and the tax cuts contributed at least a fair amount to the debt, 31% say increased domestic spending did little or nothing to increase the debt and 38% say the same about the tax cuts.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted May 25-30 among 1,509 adults, finds widespread opposition to number of proposals aimed at reducing the deficit and the national debt, including reducing funding for the states for education and roads (73% disapprove) and gradually raising the Social Security retirement age (59%).

However, several deficit-reduction proposals attract majority support, aside from the traditionally popular idea of reducing U.S. assistance to foreign countries (72% approve

Most Say Cost of Iraq, Afghanistan Contributed "Great Deal" to U.S. Debt

How much, if at all, did each contribute to the size of the national debt?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011.

of this proposal. Two-thirds (67%) approve of making more of high earners' income subject to Social Security tax, and nearly as many approve of raising taxes on incomes of over \$250,000 (66%), reducing military commitments overseas (65%) and limiting tax deductions for large corporations (62%).

Notably, Republicans (62% approve) are as likely as Democrats (58%) to approve of limiting corporate tax deductions; while 63% of Democrats approve of reducing foreign military commitments, 56% of Republicans agree.

Several Deficit-Reduction Proposals Garner Majority Support

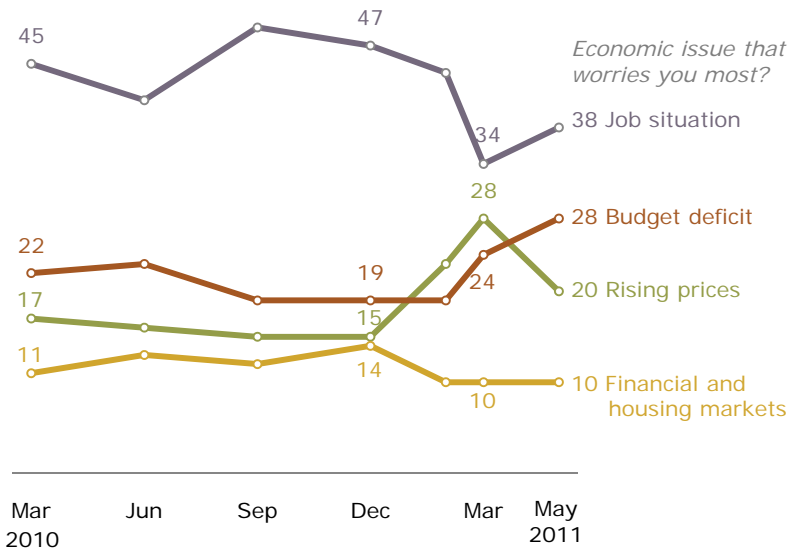
% approve of each to reduce deficit/debt...	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Reduce foreign aid	72	83	61	76
Raise Social Security contribution cap	67	54	73	71
Raise taxes on incomes over \$250k	66	49	78	67
Reduce overseas military commitments	65	56	63	72
Limit tax deductions for large corporations	62	62	58	67

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q37c,g,l,m,n.

The survey finds that public concern about the budget deficit has increased since the end of last year. Currently, 28% cite the federal budget deficit as the economic issue that most worries them, up from 24% in March and 19% in December. Despite this shift, however, the job situation remains the broader concern – 38% say they worry most about jobs, up slightly from March (34%) though down from 47% in December.

The partisan gap in deficit concern is wide: Republicans are about twice as likely as Democrats to cite the budget deficit as their biggest economic concern (37% vs. 19%). And the deficit has been rising as a concern among independents. Today, 32% say it is their top economic worry, up from 25% in March and 19% in February.

Deficit Worries Rise, but Job Situation Remains the Bigger Concern

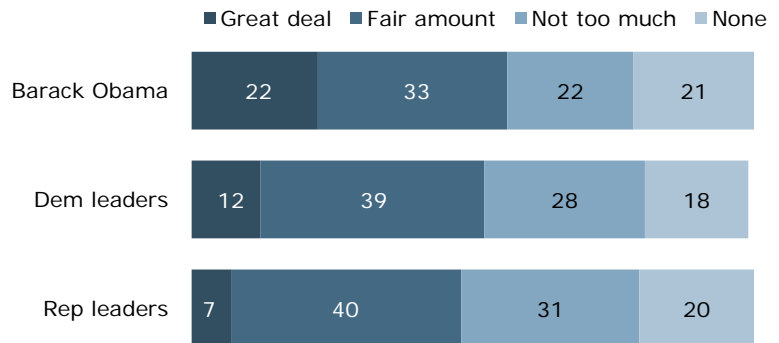


PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q16.

The public expresses more confidence in Barack Obama to deal with the budget deficit than either Democratic or Republican congressional leaders. About one-in five (22%) say they have a great deal of confidence in Obama on the deficit; 12% say the same about Democratic congressional leaders and 7% express a great deal of confidence in GOP congressional leaders on this issue.

Obama Holds Credibility Edge on Deficit Issue

How much confidence do you have in each to do the right thing when it comes to dealing with the federal budget deficit?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q38a-c.

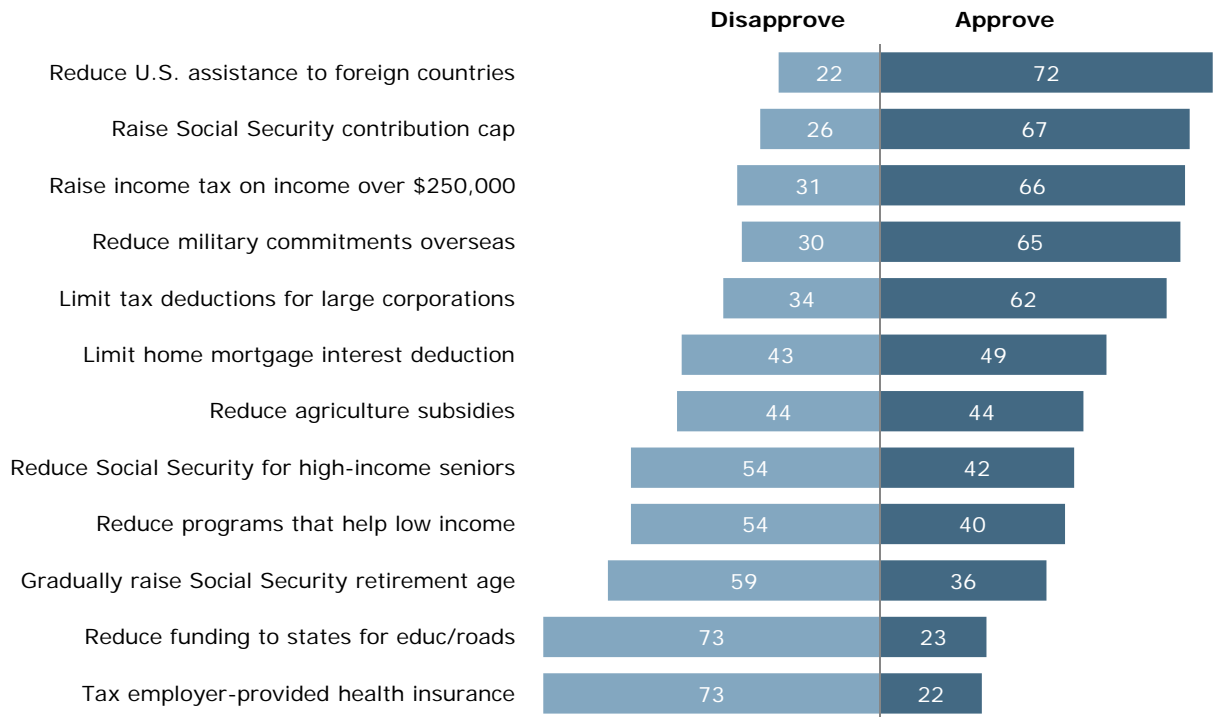
When asked which *party* can do a better job of reducing the deficit, 41% say the Republican Party and 38% say the Democrats. In early April, the Republican Party held a 46% to 34% lead as the party better able to reduce the budget deficit.

Views of Deficit Proposals

The public remains persuaded that dealing with the federal budget deficit is critical. Roughly three-quarters (74%) say it is a major problem that the country must address now, while 22% say it is a major problem best addressed when the economy is better, and only 3% say it is not much of a problem.

A number of specific proposals to deal with the deficit and debt receive majority support, particularly those that deal with reducing foreign commitments and making the wealthy and corporations pay more in taxes. Less popular are proposals that have a direct impact on middle-class Americans, such as taxing the value of employer-provided health care or gradually raising the age at which people can begin collecting Social Security.

To Cut Deficit, Most Approve of Taxing Higher Incomes, Reducing Military Commitments



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q37a-n.

One particularly popular spending cut in the name of deficit reduction is to reduce U.S. assistance to foreign countries (72% approve). A substantial 65% also supports reducing U.S. military commitments overseas as a way to reduce the deficit. This comports with the broad impression – held by six-in-ten – that the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has contributed greatly to the size of the current national debt, more than any other factor tested.

Both of these reductions receive bipartisan support. Fully 83% of Republicans approve of cutting foreign aid to help reduce the deficit, as do 76% of independents and a more modest 61% of Democrats. Reducing military commitments overseas is favored by 56% of Republicans, 63% of Democrats, and a substantial 72% of independents.

Two proposals that would take a larger share out of high-earners' paychecks – raising income taxes on income over \$250,000 and increasing the share of income that is subject to the Social Security payroll tax – are favored by roughly two-thirds of Americans (66% and 67%, respectively).

These are far-and-away the most popular approaches to deficit reduction among Democrats; 78% of whom support raising the income tax on high incomes, and

73% of whom support raising the cap on Social Security contributions. And while Republican leaders in Congress have drawn a firm line against raising income taxes, about half of Republicans nationwide (49%) would support higher taxes on income over \$250,000 to reduce the national debt, and 54% approve of raising the Social Security contribution cap.

Republicans Favor Limiting Corporate Tax Breaks, Divide over Taxing Higher Incomes

		Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Proposals that majorities favor					
Reduce US assistance to foreign countries	Approve	72	83	61	76
	Disapprove	22	14	32	20
Raise Social Security contribution cap	Approve	67	54	73	71
	Disapprove	26	42	17	25
Raise income tax on income over \$250,000	Approve	66	49	78	67
	Disapprove	31	49	21	28
Reduce military commitments overseas	Approve	65	56	63	72
	Disapprove	30	40	30	25
Limit tax deductions for large corporations	Approve	62	62	58	67
	Disapprove	34	32	40	29
Proposals that divide the public					
Limit home mortgage interest deduction	Approve	49	50	46	52
	Disapprove	43	44	43	42
Reduce agriculture subsidies	Approve	44	51	42	43
	Disapprove	44	38	42	49
Proposals that majorities oppose					
Reduce funding to help lower income Americans	Approve	40	52	31	42
	Disapprove	54	43	67	51
Reduce Social Security for high income seniors	Approve	42	48	37	43
	Disapprove	54	47	59	50
Gradually raise Social Security retirement age	Approve	36	44	31	38
	Disapprove	59	51	65	57
Reduce funding to states for roads & education	Approve	23	32	18	21
	Disapprove	73	64	78	76
Tax employer-provided health insurance	Approve	22	23	17	27
	Disapprove	73	70	80	71

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q37a-n.
 Figures in **Green** denote significant majorities **approve**.
 Figures in **Red** denote significant majorities **disapprove**.

By a 62% to 34% margin most people favor limiting tax deductions for large corporations as a means toward reducing the national debt. Two-thirds of independents (67%), as well as majorities of Republicans (62%) and Democrats (58%) support reining in corporate tax deductions.

Of the 12 deficit reduction strategies tested, two are deeply unpopular, with disapproval outweighing approval by more than three-to-one. Taxing the health insurance people receive from their employers is opposed by 73% of Americans, including 70% of Republicans, 71% of independents, and 80% of Democrats. And 73% also oppose reducing the deficit by making cuts in federal funding to states for things like education and roads. Again, there is bipartisan agreement: 78% of Democrats, 76% of independents and 64% of Republicans oppose cutting federal funding to states for these kinds of programs.

By much slimmer margins, most Americans oppose two often discussed changes to Social Security – gradually raising the retirement age (36% approve, 59% disapprove) and reducing benefits for high income seniors (42% approve, 54% disapprove). In both cases, Democrats are significantly more opposed than Republicans.

By a 54% to 40% margin most Americans disapprove of reducing federal funding for programs that help lower-income Americans as a way to deal with the national debt. But this is one of the most divisive issues along partisan lines, as Democrats disapprove by more than two-to-one while Republicans and independents are more divided.

Home Mortgage Interest Deduction

When asked about limiting tax deductions for interest paid on home mortgages as a way to reduce the size of the national debt, the public is divided, with 49% approving and 43% disapproving. Last December, a similar question asked about *eliminating* tax deductions for home mortgage interest, and found a much more negative response: 56% disapproved of eliminating this deduction entirely, while 34% approved.

More Favor Limiting Mortgage Deduction than Ending It

	Dec 2010	May 2011
	<i>Eliminate</i>	<i>Limit</i>
	%	%
Approve	34	49
Disapprove	56	43
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q37dF1.

Eliminating the mortgage interest deduction was opposed across party lines last December. Today, Republicans, Democrats and independents are all divided, with roughly as many approving as disapproving of limiting these deductions.

What Created the Debt?

In terms of the factors that contributed to the nation's debt, Democrats – especially liberal Democrats – and independents point to the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan as the biggest factor. Two-thirds of Democrats, including 79% of liberal Democrats, and 62% of independents say that the cost of the wars contributed a great deal to the debt.

For both Democrats and independents, no other factor comes close to the wars' price-tag. In fact, just 29% of Democrats, and 38% of liberals, say that the tax cuts enacted over the past 10 years contributed greatly to the debt.

Partisan Gaps Over Causes of Nation's Debt

<i>% saying each contributed "great deal" to debt</i>	Wars	Econ-omy	Spend-ing	Tax cuts
	%	%	%	%
Total	60	42	24	19
Republican	49	41	38	11
Conserv Rep	47	41	43	11
Mod/Lib Rep	54	41	26	11
Independent	62	40	23	17
Democrat	67	45	16	29
Conserv/Mod Dem	62	43	18	24
Liberal Dem	79	49	11	38

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q39a-d.

For Republicans as well, the cost of the wars (49%) is seen as a leading cause of the debt, along with the state of the economy (41%) and increased domestic spending (38%). Even conservative Republicans are about as likely to cite the cost of the wars (47%) as increased domestic spending (43%) as greatly contributing to the debt.

Republicans are in agreement that the tax cuts are not a major factor in increasing the debt. Just 11% say the tax cuts have contributed a great deal to the debt, including identical percentages of conservative Republicans and moderate and liberal Republicans.

However, most conservative Republicans (55%) say the tax cuts have contributed not much (31%) or not at all (24%) to the debt; fewer moderate and liberal Republicans (39%) say the tax cuts did little or nothing to increase the debt.

About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted May 25-30, 2011 among a national sample of 1,509 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (1,004 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 505 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 255 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers at Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see <http://people-press.org/methodology/>

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2010 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2010 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Sample Size	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	1,509	3.5 percentage points
Form 1	742	4.5 percentage points
Form 2	767	4.5 percentage points
Republicans	384	6.0 percentage points
Democrats	500	5.5 percentage points
Independents	552	5.0 percentage points

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
MAY 2011 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
May 25-30, 2011
N=1509

QUESTIONS 1 AND 15 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED
QUESTIONS 2-3 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE
NO QUESTIONS 4-14

ASK ALL:

On another subject...

Q.16 Which of the following national economic issues worries you most? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

May 25-30 2011		Mar 8-14 2011	Feb 2-7 2011	Dec 1-5 2010	Aug 25- Sep 6 2010	Jun 3-6 2010	Mar 10-14 2010
38	The job situation	34	44	47	49	41	45
28	The federal budget deficit	24	19	19	19	23	22
20	Rising prices	28	23	15	15	16	17
10	Problems in the financial and housing markets	10	10	14	12	13	11
2	Other (VOL.)	3	1	1	2	3	2
*	None/Not worried about any (VOL.)	*	1	1	1	1	*
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	3	3	2	2	2

ASK ALL:

Q.17 Please tell me if you think the REPUBLICAN Party or the DEMOCRATIC Party could do a better job in each of the following areas... (First,) which party could do a better job of... **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]**?

	Republican Party	Democratic Party	(VOL.) Both equally	(VOL.) Neither	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a. Dealing with the economy					
May 25-30, 2011	38	40	5	8	8
Sep 16-19, 2010	38	37	8	10	8
May 20-23, 2010	33	34	9	14	10
Feb 3-9, 2010	38	41	7	6	7
Aug 27-30, 2009	32	42	6	12	9
February, 2008	34	53	2	5	6
October, 2006	32	45	4	5	14
September, 2006	32	46	5	5	12
February, 2006	36	46	5	5	8
Mid-September, 2005	38	44	5	7	6
July, 2004	34	46	5	5	10
Late October, 2002 (RVs)	37	40	5	6	12
Early October, 2002 (RVs)	37	41	4	5	13
Early September, 2002	36	36	9	6	13
January, 2002	43	34	--	5	18
May, 2001 ¹	33	44	8	5	10
June, 1999	37	43	8	3	9
March, 1999	39	44	5	3	9
Early September, 1998	40	38	8	4	10
March, 1998	40	40	12	3	5
October, 1994	45	33	5	7	10
Gallup: October, 1992 (RVs)	36	45	10	--	9
Gallup: October, 1990	37	35	--	--	28

QUESTION 17b PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

¹ In May 2001 and earlier, the item was worded: "... keeping the country prosperous?"

Q.17 CONTINUED...

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
c. Reducing the federal budget deficit					
May 25-30, 2011	41	38	4	9	8
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	46	34	8	6	7
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	28	7	16	14
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	36	5	9	7
May 20-23, 2010	33	30	8	16	12
Apr 21-26, 2010	38	35	6	11	10
Feb 3-9, 2010	42	36	6	8	7
Aug 27-30, 2009	35	36	6	13	10
September, 2006	27	47	4	8	14
February, 2006	33	45	6	9	7
Early October, 2005 ²	29	47	6	10	8
June, 1999	37	41	5	8	9
July, 1994	42	36	2	13	7
December, 1993	31	36	--	18	15
d. Dealing with immigration					
May 25-30, 2011	39	37	4	9	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	28	9	12	16
May 20-23, 2010	35	27	10	14	14
Apr 21-26, 2010	36	35	7	11	12
Aug 27-30, 2009	31	36	6	13	13
February, 2008	38	43	4	6	9
October, 2006	35	33	6	8	18
September, 2006	32	37	5	10	16
April, 2006	27	43	6	11	13
February, 2006	34	38	8	9	11

QUESTIONS 18-20 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED
QUESTIONS 21-25 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE
NO QUESTIONS 22-23, 26-28, 32, 34-35
QUESTIONS 29-33 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK ALL:

On another subject...

Q.36 Which of these statements do you think best describes the federal budget deficit **[READ IN ORDER; REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF OF SAMPLE]**

May 25-30 <u>2011</u>		Apr 21-25 <u>2011</u>	Dec 1-5 <u>2010</u>
74	It is a major problem that the country must address now	81	70
22	It is a major problem that should be addressed		
3	when the economy is better	14	23
2	It is not much of a problem for the country	1	1
	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	5

² In Early October 2005, the item was asked as a stand alone question. In June 1999, the item was worded: "Keeping the federal budget balanced." In December 1993 the item was worded: "Reducing the budget deficit."

ASK ALL:

Q.37 Thinking about ways to reduce the deficit and size of the national debt, please tell me if you would approve or disapprove of each of the following. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]** Would you approve or disapprove of this as a way to reduce the size of the national debt? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Would you approve or disapprove of this as a way to reduce the size of the national debt?]**³

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=742]:				
a.F1	Reduce federal funding for programs that help lower income Americans May 25-30, 2011	40	54	6
b.F1	Gradually raise the age at which people can begin receiving Social Security benefits May 25-30, 2011	36	59	5
	Dec 1-5, 2010	38	58	4
c.F1	Make more of high-earners' income subject to the Social Security payroll tax May 25-30, 2011	67	26	7
	Dec 1-5, 2010	64	27	9
d.F1	Limit tax deductions for interest paid on home mortgages May 25-30, 2011	49	43	8
TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
	<i>Eliminate tax deductions for interest paid on home mortgages</i> Dec 1-5, 2010	34	56	10
NO ITEM e.				
f.F1	Reduce agriculture subsidies May 25-30, 2011	44	44	12
g.F1	Reduce military commitments overseas May 25-30, 2011	65	30	6
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=767]:				
h.F2	Reduce federal funding to states for things like education and roads May 25-30, 2011	23	73	4
	Dec 1-5, 2010	25	71	4
NO ITEM i.				
j.F2	Tax the health insurance people receive from their employer May 25-30, 2011	22	73	4
	Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7
k.F2	Reduce Social Security benefits for seniors with higher incomes May 25-30, 2011	42	54	5
	Dec 1-5, 2010	48	47	5
l.F2	Raise the income tax rate on incomes over \$250,000 a year May 25-30, 2011	66	31	3

³ In December 2010, question began, "Thinking about ways to reduce the federal budget deficit...".

Q.37 CONTINUED...

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
m.F2	Limit tax deductions for large corporations May 25-30, 2011	62	34	4
n.F2	Reduce U.S. assistance to foreign countries May 25-30, 2011	72	22	5

ASK ALL:

Q.38 How much confidence do you have in **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** to do the right thing when it comes to dealing with the federal budget deficit – a great deal of confidence, a fair amount of confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**?

		<u>A great deal</u>	<u>A fair amount</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>No confidence at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Barack Obama					
	May 25-30, 2011	22	33	22	21	2
	Dec 1-5, 2010	19	34	20	24	4
b.	Republican leaders in Congress					
	May 25-30, 2011	7	40	31	20	2
	Dec 1-5, 2010	6	34	29	27	4
c.	Democratic leaders in Congress					
	May 25-30, 2011	12	39	28	18	3
	Dec 1-5, 2010	9	33	28	24	5

ASK ALL:

Q.39 How much, if at all, do you think each of the following has contributed to the size of the current national debt? First, has **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** contributed a great deal, a fair amount, not much, or not at all to the size of the current national debt? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: How much has [ITEM] contributed to the size of the current national debt: a great deal, a fair amount, not much or not at all?]**

		<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Not much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	The condition of the national economy May 25-30, 2011	42	34	14	5	5
b.	The tax cuts enacted over the past 10 years May 25-30, 2011	19	35	28	10	8
c.	The cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan May 25-30, 2011	60	26	8	3	2
d.	Increased spending on domestic programs May 25-30, 2011	24	38	24	7	8

NO QUESTIONS 40-44, 47-48

QUESTIONS 45-46 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUESTION 49 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

				(VOL.) No	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	preference	party			
May 25-30, 2011	24	33	38	3	*	2	15	17
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	25	32	37	3	*	3	17	16
Mar 8-14, 2011	24	33	38	3	*	2	17	15
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	24	33	37	3	*	3	15	16
Feb 2-7, 2011	24	31	39	3	*	2	16	16
Jan 5-9, 2011	27	32	35	4	*	2	15	14
Dec 1-5, 2010	25	33	34	5	1	2	13	14
Nov 4-7, 2010	26	30	37	4	*	2	17	13
Oct 27-30, 2010	25	34	31	6	1	4	13	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	25	31	36	4	*	3	16	13
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	24	32	39	2	*	2	15	17
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	26	33	34	4	*	3	14	14
Jun 16-20, 2010	27	34	34	3	1	2	15	15
Apr 21-26, 2010	26	33	36	3	1	3	16	13
Yearly Totals								
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

ASK ALL:

TEAPARTY2 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	<u>(VOL.) Haven't heard of</u>	<u>(VOL.) Refused</u>	<u>Not heard of/ DK</u>
May 25-30, 2011	18	23	54	2	2	--
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	22	29	47	1	1	--
Mar 8-14, 2011	19	25	54	1	1	--
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	20	25	52	2	2	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 ⁴	22	22	53	2	2	--
Jan 5-9, 2011	24	22	50	2	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	22	26	49	2	2	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	27	22	49	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)	29	25	32	--	1	13
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	28	24	30	--	1	16
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	29	26	32	--	1	13
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	22	18	37	--	1	21
Jun 16-20, 2010	24	18	30	--	*	27
May 20-23, 2010	25	18	31	--	1	25
Mar 11-21, 2010	24	14	29	--	1	31

⁴ In the February 2-7, 2011 survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May through October, it was described as: "the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."